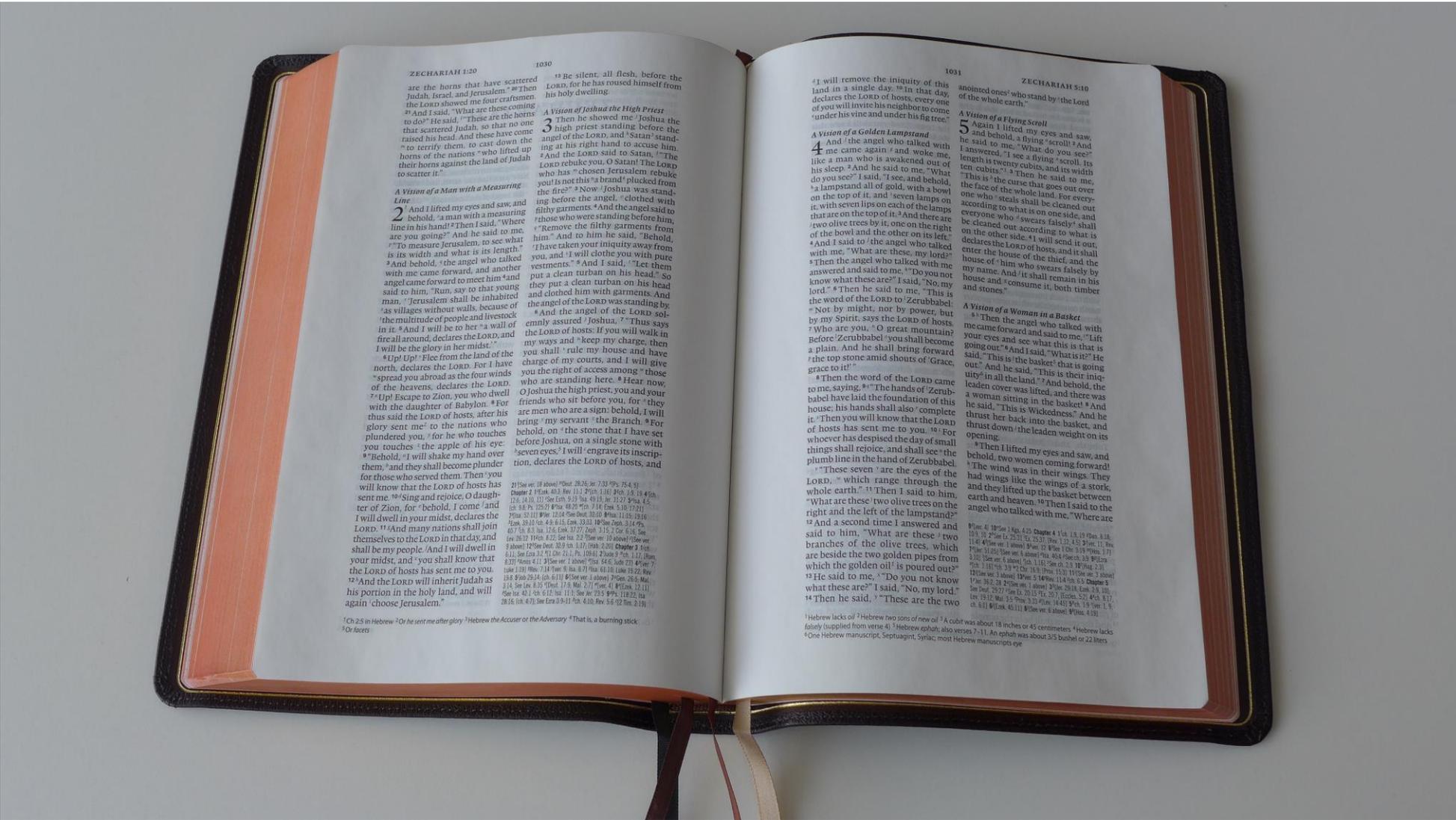


Session 1

What is the Bible?



are the horns that have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem. Then the LORD showed me four craftsmen. And I said, "What are these coming to do?" He said, "These are the horns that scattered Judah, so that no one raised his head. And these have come to terrify them, to cast down the horns of the nations who lifted up their horns against the land of Judah to scatter it."

A Vision of a Man with a Measuring Line

And I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, a man with a measuring line in his hand! Then I said, "Where are you going?" Then I said, "Where are you going?" And he said to me, "To measure Jerusalem, to see what is its width and what is its length." And behold, the angel who talked with me came forward, and another angel came forward to meet him. And he said to that young man, "Run, say to that young man, 'Jerusalem shall be inhabited as villages without walls, because of the multitude of people and livestock. And I will be to her a wall of fire all around, declares the LORD, and I will be the glory in her midst.'"

Upl! Flee from the land of the north, declares the LORD. For I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heavens, declares the LORD. Upl! Escape to Zion, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon. For thus said the LORD of hosts, after his glory sent me to the nations who plundered you, for he who touches you touches the apple of his eye. Behold, I will shake my hand over them, and they shall become plunder for those who served them. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent me. Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion, for behold, I come and I will dwell in your midst, declares the LORD. And many nations shall join themselves to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people. And I will dwell in your midst, and you shall know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you. And the LORD will inherit Judah as his portion in the holy land, and will again choose Jerusalem.

Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD, for he has roused himself from his holy dwelling.

A Vision of Joshua the High Priest

Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. And the LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, O Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is not this a brand plucked from the fire?" Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments." And I said, "Let them put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD was standing by.

And the angel of the LORD solemnly assured Joshua, "Thus says the LORD of hosts: If you will walk in my ways and keep my charge, then you shall rule my house and have charge of my courts, and I will give you the right of access among those who are standing here. Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, you and your friends who sit before you, for they are men who are a sign, behold, I will bring my servant the Branch. For behold, on the stone that I have set before Joshua, on a single stone with seven eyes, I will engrave its inscription, declares the LORD of hosts, and

21 See ver. 18 above. 22 Dan. 28:26; Jer. 7:33; Psa. 75:4-5; Chapter 2. Ezek. 40:3; Rev. 1:11; Zech. 1:16; Psa. 136:19-24; Job. 12:8, 14-16, 11; See Esth. 9:13; Isa. 49:15; Jer. 31:27; 5:24; 4:1; Job. 5:8; Psa. 125:2; Psa. 48:20; Job. 7:14; Ezek. 5:10; 17:21; 7:28; Job. 31:11; Psa. 12:8; See Deut. 32:2; Psa. 118:12; 124:2; Job. 31:10; 4:8-16; Ezek. 33:33; 18: See Zeph. 3:4; Psa. 40:7; Job. 8:3; Isa. 12:6; Ezek. 37:27; Zeph. 3:15; 1 Cor. 6:16; See Lev. 26:27; 11:6; 4:2; See Lev. 22:7; See ver. 10 above. 11 See ver. 9 above. 12 See Deut. 32:9; Job. 1:17; Hab. 2:20. Chapter 3. 1 Isa. 61:1; See Lev. 21:7; Job. 2:11; Psa. 109:4; 2 Kings 9:7; 1:17; Hab. 3:23; Psa. 41:1; 2:1; See ver. 1 above. 2 Psa. 84:5; Job. 7:1; Psa. 7:1; Luke 1:31; 9:6; 7:14; 1 Tim. 9:8; Job. 8:7; Psa. 61:10; Luke 13:22; Rev. 1:8; Psa. 29:24; Job. 6:11; 9: See ver. 1 above. 3 Psa. 26:5; Mal. 1:14; See Lev. 4:15; Deut. 17:8; Job. 27:17; Psa. 91:1; Psa. 121:1; See Isa. 42:1; Psa. 61:2; Job. 11:3; See Jer. 23:5; 9:9; 118:22; Job. 28:16; Job. 4:7; See Ezra 9:9-11; Job. 4:10; Psa. 56:12; 1 Tim. 2:18.

1 Ch. 2:5 in Hebrew. 2 Or he sent me after glory. 3 Hebrew the Accuser or the Adversary. 4 That is, a burning stick. 5 Or facets.

anointed ones' who stand by the LORD of the whole earth."

A Vision of a Flying Scroll

Again I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, a flying scroll! And I answered, "I see a flying scroll, its length is twenty cubits, and its width ten cubits." Then he said to me, "This is the curse that goes out over everyone who swears falsely by the face of the whole land. For everyone who swears falsely by the face of the whole land, for everyone who swears falsely by the face of the whole land, shall be cut off, declares the LORD of hosts, and it shall enter the house of him who swears falsely by my name. And it shall remain in his house and consume it, both timber and stones."

A Vision of a Woman in a Basket

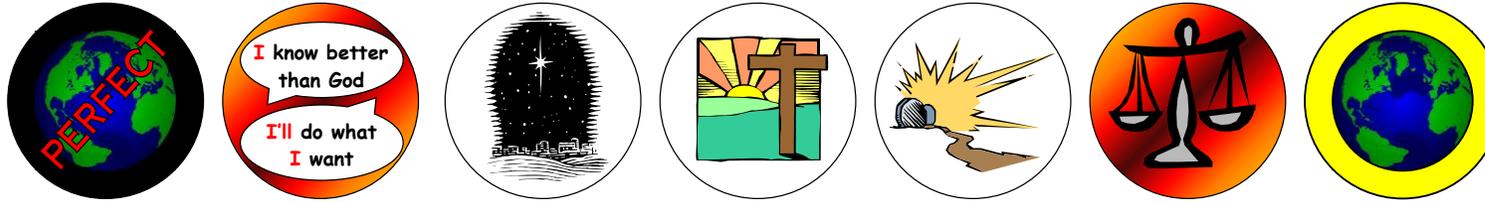
Then the angel who talked with me came forward and said to me, "Lift going out." And I said, "What is it?" He said, "This is the basket that is going out in all the land." And behold, the leaden cover was lifted, and there was a woman sitting in the basket. And he said, "This is Wickedness." And he thrust her back into the basket, and thrust down the leaden weight on its opening.

Then I lifted my eyes and saw, and behold, two women coming forward! The wind was in their wings. They had wings like the wings of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between earth and heaven. Then I said to the angel who talked with me, "Where are

These seven? Are the eyes of the LORD, which range through the whole earth?" Then I said to him, "What are these two olive trees on the right and the left of the lampstand?" And a second time I answered and said to him, "What are these two branches of the olive trees, which are beside the two golden pipes from which the golden oil is poured out?" He said to me, "Do you not know what these are?" I said, "No, my lord." Then he said, "These are the two

1 Hebrew lacks oil. 2 Hebrew two sons of new oil. 3 A cubit was about 18 inches or 45 centimeters. 4 Hebrew lacks falsely (supplied from verse 4). 5 Hebrew ephah; also verses 7-11. An ephah was about 3/5 bushel or 22 liters. 6 One Hebrew manuscript, Septuagint, Syriac; most Hebrew manuscripts eye.

What's in the Bible?



The early chapters of **Genesis** tell how God created the world perfect, and how he created human beings to lovingly rule it, and to know him.

But we rebelled against God's law – bringing misery and death upon us and the world. We remain at war with God, and facing his judgment.

The rest of the **Old Testament** tells the history of *Israel*, the people whom God chose to be the first step in his unfolding plan of Salvation.

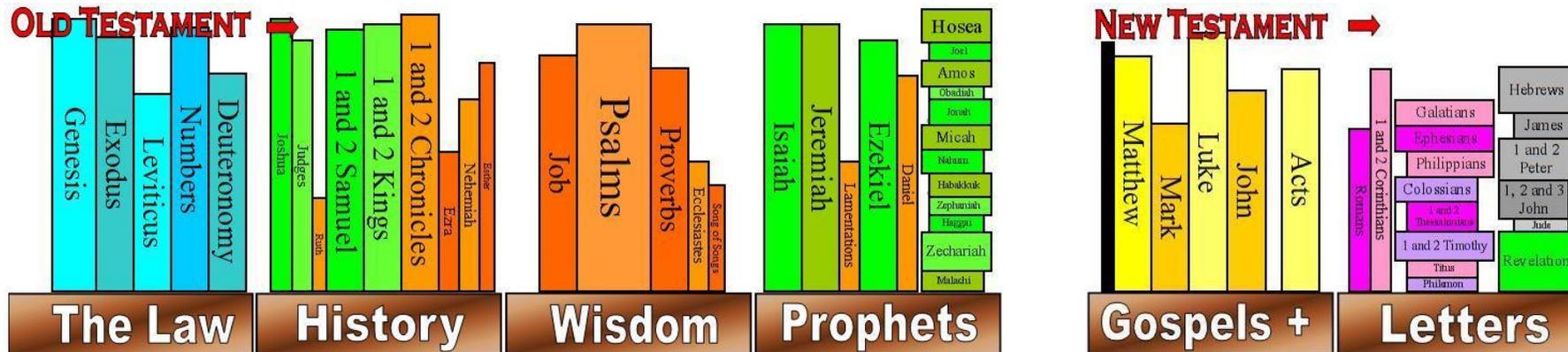
Israel too rebelled and was judged, but God promised to rescue and transform his people, and to set over them a king whom he would send.

The **New Testament** tells how God kept this promise, by sending *his Son*, born into our world of misery and death.

The **Gospels** tell the history of *Jesus' life* of faithful, loving obedience, his death for his people (willingly bearing God's judgment in their place), and his resurrection to be king of the world.

The rest of the **New Testament** tells the early history of God's people, *the church*. Forgiven, and transformed by God's Holy Spirit, they are called to live lives of faithful, loving obedience to Jesus as Lord.

The final chapters of **Revelation** describe how Jesus will return to triumph over evil, to rescue his people, to transform the world, and to judge and exclude all those who have remained in rebellion against God.



A Brief History of Everything...

The Bible – God’s word

- “The Lord spoke”

The Old Testament claims about itself

- Micah 3vs8
- Zechariah 7vs12
- 2 Samuel 23vs2
- Jeremiah 1vs9
- Isaiah 51vs16
- Deuteronomy 4vs2
- Psalm 119vs160
- Proverbs 30vs5-6

The Bible – God’s word

The New Testament claims about the OT

- 2 Timothy 3vs16

The New Testament claims about itself

- 1 Corinthians 2vs12-13
- 2 Peter 3vs1-2
- 1 Peter 1vs10-12
- Revelation 22vs6
- 1 Corinthians 14vs37
- 1 Thessalonians 4vs2
- 1 Thessalonians 1vs13
- Galatians 1vs6-12

The Bible – God’s word

- Its unity
- Its detailed foretelling of what came to pass
- Its authority and power
- Its historicity
- The testimony of its authors
- Its indestructability

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.”